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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

Date: 5/31/02

Name: Yukari Takigawa

Signature: *Yukari Takigawa*

Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells LLP

Docket No. 6514-8

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT OPERATION**

**RECEIVED**

**JUN 10 2002**

**Technology Center 2100**

In re Application of: Kazutoyo MAEHIRO et al.

Serial No. : 09/821,267      Group Art Unit : 2151  
Filed : March 29, 2001      Examiner : Unknown  
For : Information Processing System, Method for Message  
Communications, Recording Medium, and Computer Program

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE**

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") in accordance with its duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98. This IDS is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), before issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Also attached are copies of the cited references, together with a listing thereof on Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully solicit the Examiner's consideration of the cited references and entry into the record of this application.

Each reference in a foreign language includes an English-language Abstract, and for one foreign language reference, Applicants provide a translation of selected portions of the

Applicant: Kazutoyo MAEHIRO et al.  
Serial No.: 09/821,267  
Page - 2 -

specification. It is believed that the Abstracts and the partial translation fulfill the requirement of a concise explanation of the relevance thereof.

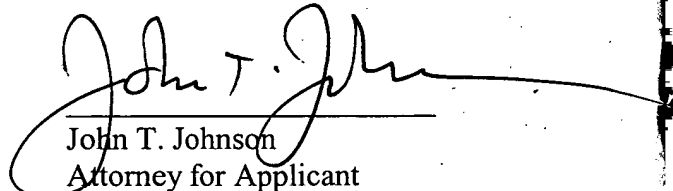
This IDS is being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98, but the citation of references should not be construed as an admission that such references are necessarily relevant or are prior art. No representation is intended that the cited references represent the results of a search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search for prior art, consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.104 and, in the course of such search, will review for relevance each and every reference cited on the attached Form PTO-1449.

This IDS has been submitted prior to the receipt of a first Office Action in this application. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is due. In the event that a first Office Action was mailed on or before the date of submission of this IDS, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0521. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 3, 2002

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office

Serial No. 09/821,267

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Inventors: Kazutoyo MAEHIRO et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket No. 6514-8



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION
	11-259568	9/24/99	JP	PARTIAL
	11-143616	5/28/99	JP	PARTIAL
	11-136278	5/21/99	JP	PARTIAL
	10-240818	9/11/98	JP	PARTIAL

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Form PTO-1449 [6-4]